

SITUATION REPORT NO. 15
INCIDENT NO. 2002-040
DATE: July 12, 2002 TIME: 3:30 p.m.

TO: Governor John Hoeven
State Capitol
Bismarck, N.D. 58505

1. NATURE OF DISASTER: Drought/Fires – The Governor issued a state fire emergency declaration on May 30, 2002, and a state drought emergency declaration on July 1, 2002.
2. DEATHS AND INJURIES: The State Emergency Operations Center (EOC) has received reports of two fatalities, one of which occurred on May 2 and the other on May 26. To date, a total of 11 injuries have occurred during response to various fires throughout the state.
3. DAMAGES: The Kraft Complex was fully contained on July 10. The transition to a Type III Team occurred July 11. The work force consists of 76 people, 15 engines, four water tenders, and one helicopter. Crews will continue mop up the large contained fires and will assist local firefighters with initial attack on new fires. As a result of more accurate mapping techniques, the total area burned in the Kraft Complex has been reduced to 35,100 acres.
4. RESOURCES:
LOCAL: No change from previous reports.
STATE: No change from previous reports.
FEDERAL: No change from previous reports.
5. VOLUNTEER ACTIONS: American Red Cross personnel report that the organization continues to work with individuals impacted by the fires and is coordinating with other volunteer agencies to identify unmet needs.
6. MAJOR ACTIONS: On July 9, Governor John Hoeven, for the second time, requested that Secretary of Agriculture, Ann Veneman authorize grazing and haying of Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) acres in the entire state. On July 11, Governor Hoeven announced the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) responded favorably to his request by opening (CRP) acres statewide for both haying and grazing. The Governor also directed N.D. Department of Transportation (NDDOT) personnel to open all “no mow” areas on the state highway system for haying, beginning July 15. Hoeven encouraged landowners with sufficient resources of hay to make available “no mow” areas and CRP acres for those livestock producers severely impacted by the drought.
On July 2, the Golden Valley County Commission issued a drought emergency declaration.

7. ASSISTANCE NEEDED: No change from previous reports.
8. OUTSIDE HELP ON SCENE: No change from previous reports.
9. OTHER: Appropriate state, local, tribal, federal and private entity emergency operations plans (EOPs) and procedures have been implemented.

The N.D. Rural Fire Mitigation Guide and the N.D. Rangeland Fire Danger Index are posted on the N.D. Division of Emergency Management web site at:

<http://www.state.nd.us/dem/>.

Situation Reports published by N.D. Division of Emergency Management are posted on the Division's Internet home page. The address is:

<http://www.state.nd.us/dem/>.

Douglas C. Friez, State Director